

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

School Education – Enhancing English Proficiency through TOEFL Exam and Global Employment Opportunities– Mentorship program for TOEFL – Orders – Issued.

SCHOOL EDUCATION (PROG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.44

Dated: 06-02-2024
Read the following:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.57, School Education (Prog.II) Department, dated:21.06.2023.
2. G.O.Ms.No.72, School Education (Prog.II) Department, dated:14.08.2023.

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O R D E R:

In the aforementioned Government Orders, approval has been granted for an agreement to conduct the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination and certification for students in Classes 3rd to 9th. This initiative offers students an opportunity for assessment. The State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, has been directed to initiate the necessary steps to enter into an agreement with Education Testing Services (ETS) and implement the program through the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT).

2. Subsequently, the State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha representing the Government of Andhra Pradesh, has formalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ETS. This MoU focuses on the development and implementation of English language assessments in Classes 3rd to 9th across government schools in the state. An official order has mandated daily TOEFL classes in all schools, with a particular emphasis on enhancing listening and speaking skills essential for the TOEFL exam. The government has introduced Interactive Flat Panels (IFP), Smart TVs, and e-content, dedicating a daily period specifically for TOEFL.

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3. Recognizing the importance of accelerating skill acquisition in listening and speaking, the initiative suggests exposure to global accents through mentorship. This not only hones language skills but also boosts global employability. Mentors are seen as crucial in bridging gaps, providing guidance, and creating a pathway for students to navigate the intricacies of the TOEFL exam. Their role extends beyond imparting language skills to instilling confidence and fostering a supportive academic environment.

4. Moreover, the mentoring program specifies that students above Class 6 should have mentors, with a male mentor assigned to boy students and a female mentor to girl students.

5. The preference for selecting a mentor is as follows:-

- a) Preferably an old student from the same school (Alumni community),
- b) If not from the school, then from the same village/town or district, and
- c) If unavailable locally, mentors can be selected from anywhere outside the district.

6. In line with fostering mentoring, the School Education Department of the Government of Andhra Pradesh hereby collaborates with ShikshaLokam, a Bengaluru-based NGO, to establish a Mentoring Platform. ShikshaLokam, known for its active involvement in the National Mission for Mentoring (NMM), has played a significant role in design workshops, contributing to the drafting of the NMM bluebook, and organizing open consultative workshops across India. The organization, led by Mr S D Shibulal, Co-founder, and Former CEO of Infosys, is committed to **providing pro bono (Free of Cost)** services as a program and technological advisor.

7. ShikshaLokam, a catalyst for education leadership, brings vast experience in anchoring mentoring programs at both central and state levels. Recognizing the State of Andhra Pradesh's mission to enable TOEFL certification and mentoring, ShikshaLokam aims to contribute to global access for students, aligning with the state's priorities.

8. In the mentorship initiative, leveraging the NRI population and individuals employed in IT and other sectors is key to helping students excel in the TOEFL examination. Mentor-mentee interactions will cover practical aspects like Reading, Listening, Speaking, and Writing, utilizing IFP, Smart TVs, and e-Content for practice. Real-time practice, doubt clarification, and periodic enjoyable assessments will be the focus.

9. The Director, State Institute of Education Management and Training (SIEMAT) is designated as a Nodal Officer for this program.

10. The Commissioner of School Education, the State Project Director, Samagra Siksha, the Director, SCERT, and Director, SIEMAT shall take necessary action accordingly, in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

PRAVEEN PRAKASH
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Commissioner of School Education, AP, Ibrahimpatnam.

The State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, Vijayawada.

The Director, SCERT, Vijayawada.

The Director, SIEMAT, Vijayawada

Copy to:

The PS to Spl. Chief Secretary to Chief Minister.

The OSD to the Minister of Education.

The PS to Principal Secretary to Government (SE).

Sf/Sc.

//FORWARDED:BY ORDER//


SECTION OFFICER